MARVEL
1
KID VENOM
ORIGINS
TAIGAMI
GURU-eFX

KID VENOM

WRITER & ARTIST
TAIGAMI

COLOR ARTIST
GURU-eFX

LETTERER
VC's CLAYTON COWLES

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EDITOR IN CHIEF
C.B. CEBULSKI

WELCOME TO THE BEGINNING OF...

KID VENOM

Collected here are the original five-page sections of the very first KID VENOM story from our DEATH OF THE VENOMVERSE series! Taigami, along with GURU-eFX for color and VC's Clayton Cowles for lettering, brought Kid Venom to life in issues #2-5 of that series. You dear readers may not know this, but KID VENOM has been a long-time project that finally came to fruition this past year! From the mind of manga-creator Taigami, Kid Venom originally started as a sample story for Kodansha and Marvel, where Kid Venom (at the time, named Venom Boy) first was created in 2018! After the full twenty-page story, you'll find the original test pages, thumbnails and sketches from Taigami himself! We wanted to take this opportunity to show that there are many ways to break into Marvel Comics—everyone's experience is unique and wholly their own, and if you are looking to work in comics, in any capacity, you just have to work hard and find your way! Special thanks to C.B. Cebulski for making the connection with Taigami and helping bring this all to life! Thank you as well to Aki Yanagi for continuing to foster that connection! Taigami, anything else you'd like to add?

It started with an idea when I was 19, "It might be fun if I put Japanese folktales into the history of Marvel..." I appreciate it, from the bottom of my heart, for the people who took time and picked my idea and stuck with me for several years to make this happen, and to the readers who picked up this issue and read this story, and the people who have supported me. I hope everyone will enjoy the adventures of Kintaro and the world of Japanese folktales! Till I see you all again! Thank you so much!

Amazing—I will reiterate, we can't thank you all enough for your support of Taigami, Kid Venom and their future in the Marvel Universe! Enjoy the ride! And join us soon for Kid Venom's own series that this sets the stage for!

Stay Safe!
Danny Khazem
11.10.23

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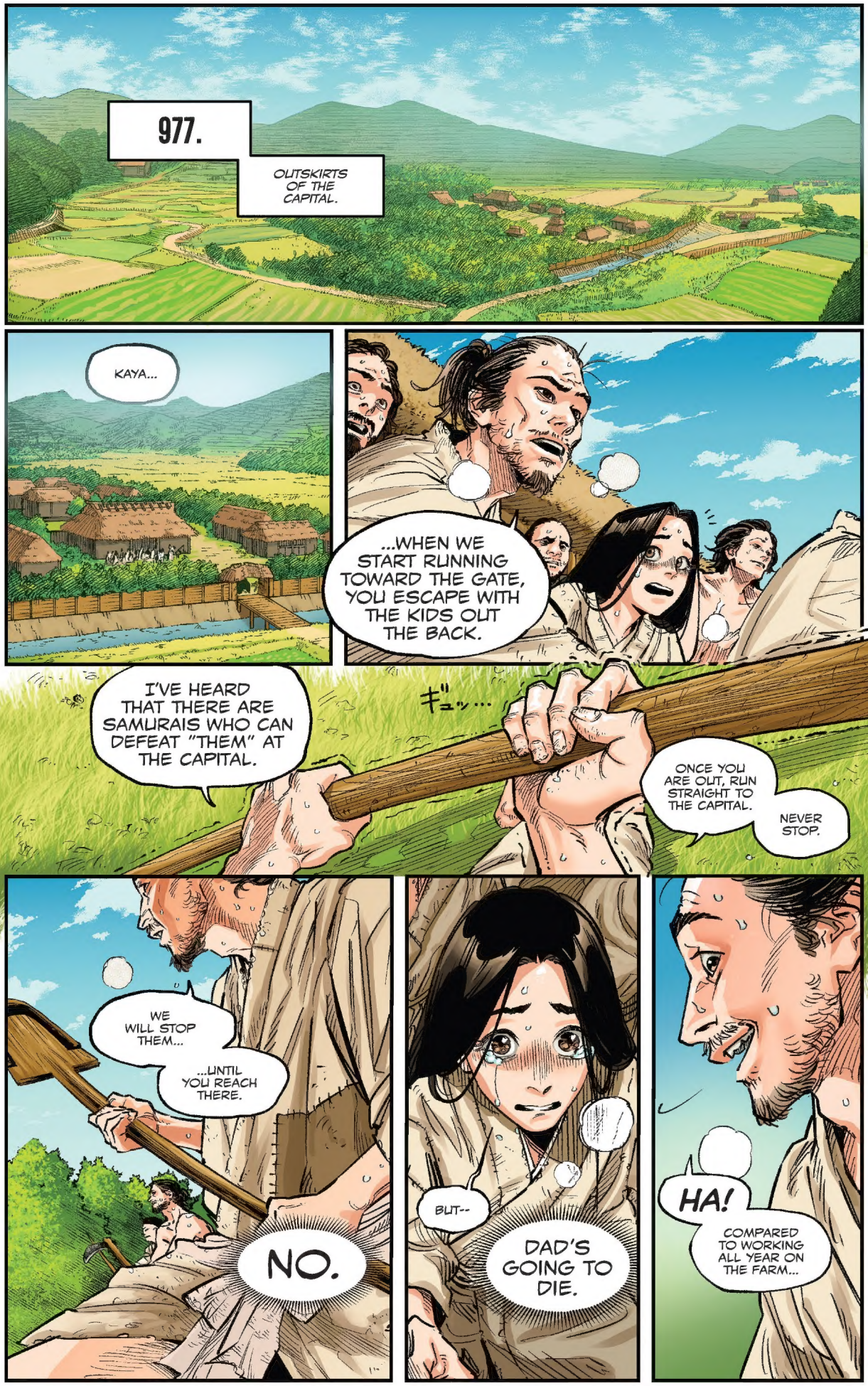
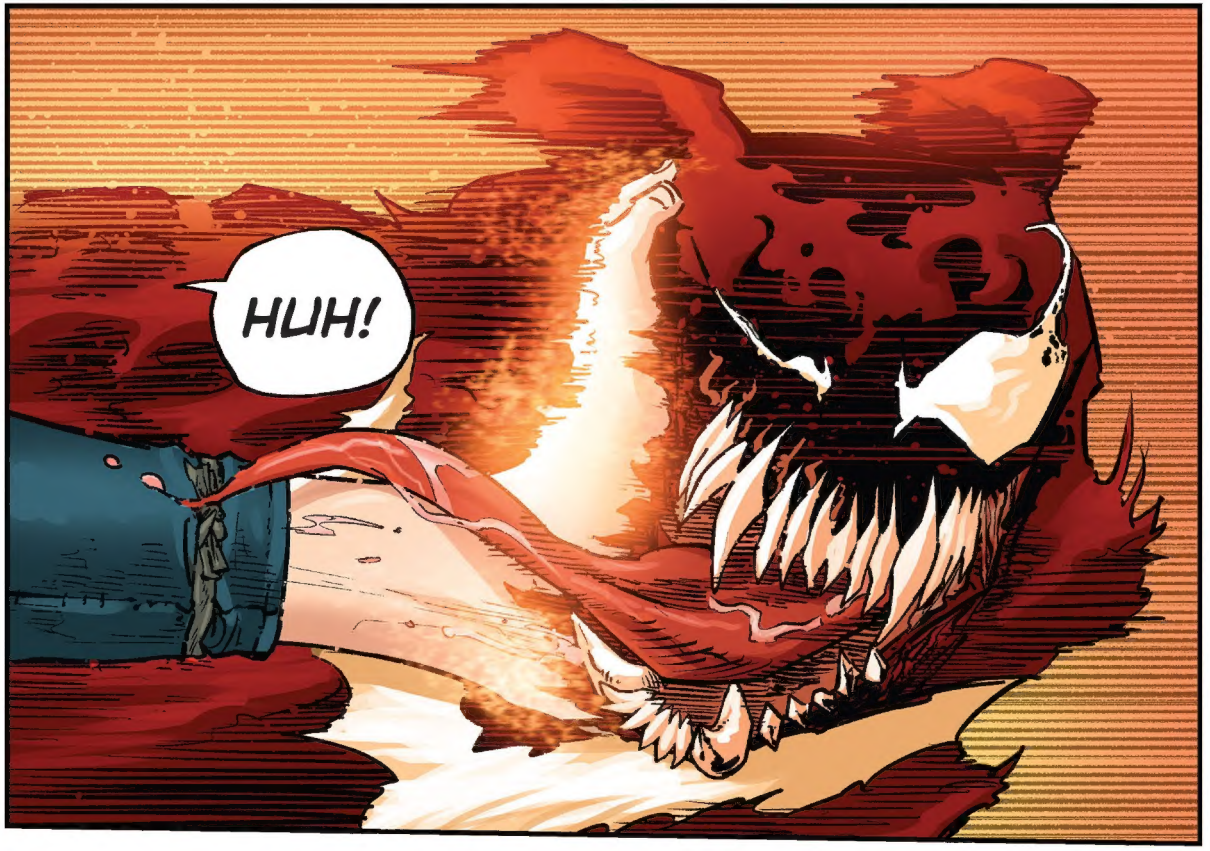
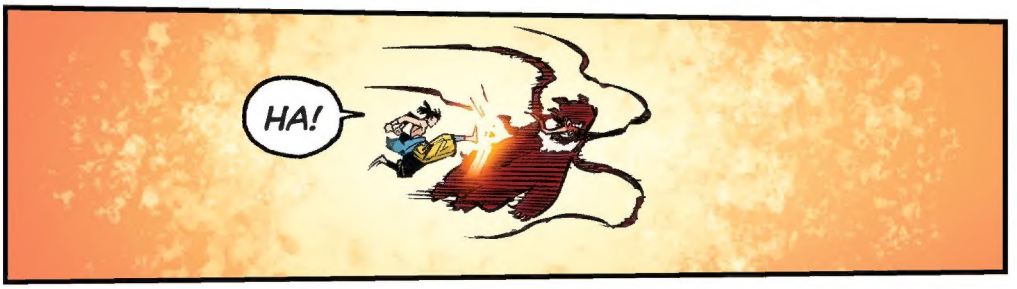
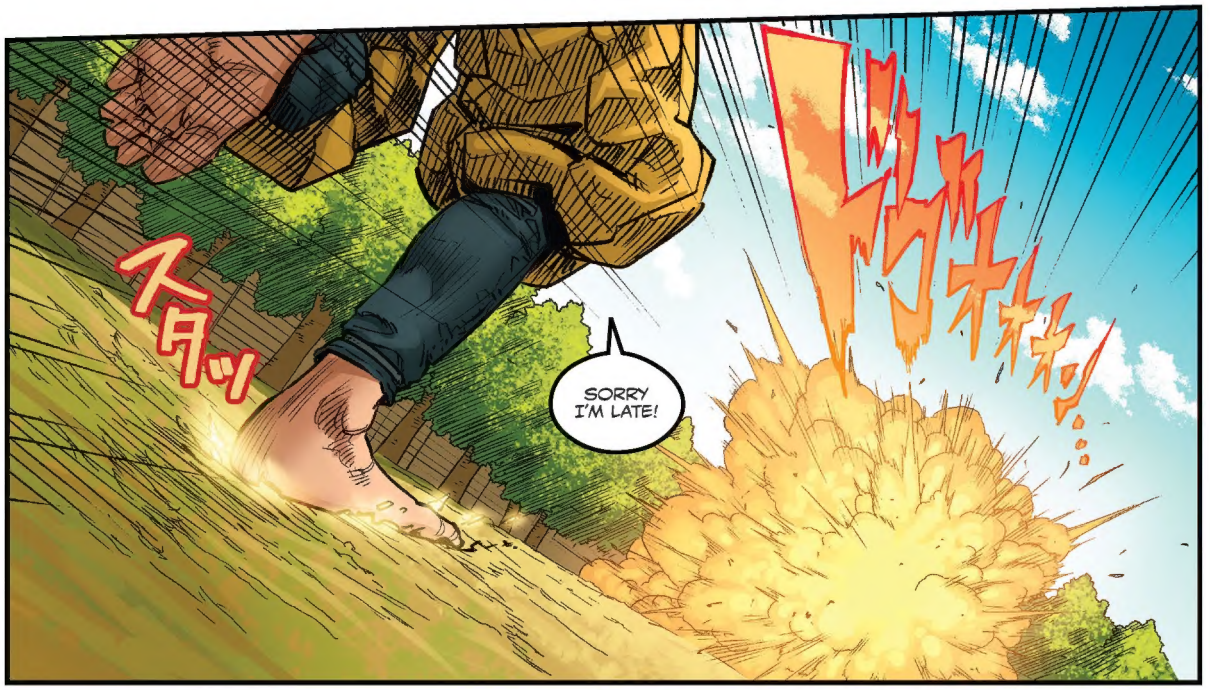

977.
OUTSKIRTS OF THE CAPITAL.
KAYA...
...WHEN WE START RUNNING TOWARD THE GATE, YOU ESCAPE WITH THE KIDS OUT THE BACK.
I'VE HEARD THAT THERE ARE SAMURAIS WHO CAN DEFEAT "THEM" AT THE CAPITAL.
ギュッ…
ONCE YOU ARE OUT, RUN STRAIGHT TO THE CAPITAL.
NEVER STOP.
WE WILL STOP THEM...
...UNTIL YOU REACH THERE.
NO.
BUT--
DAD'S GOING TO DIE.
HA!
COMPARED TO WORKING ALL YEAR ON THE FARM...

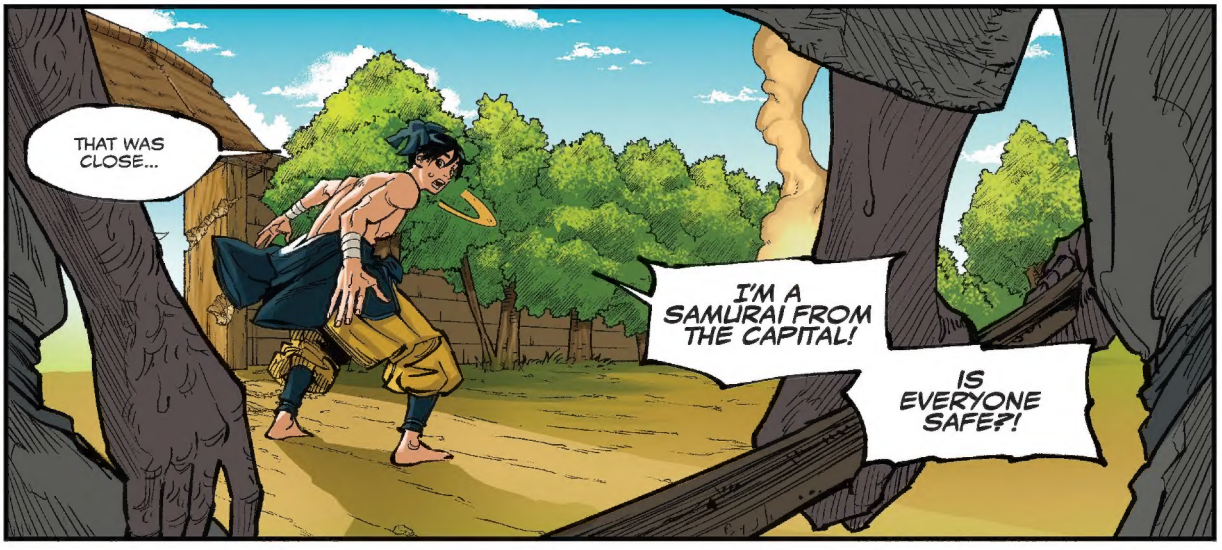
...DEALING WITH AN ONI FOR A SHORT WHILE IS LIKE...
...NOTHING!
グルルル...
LET'S GO!
WE MUST PROTECT OUR VILLAGE'S TREASURE!
オオオオ
ガブッ!!



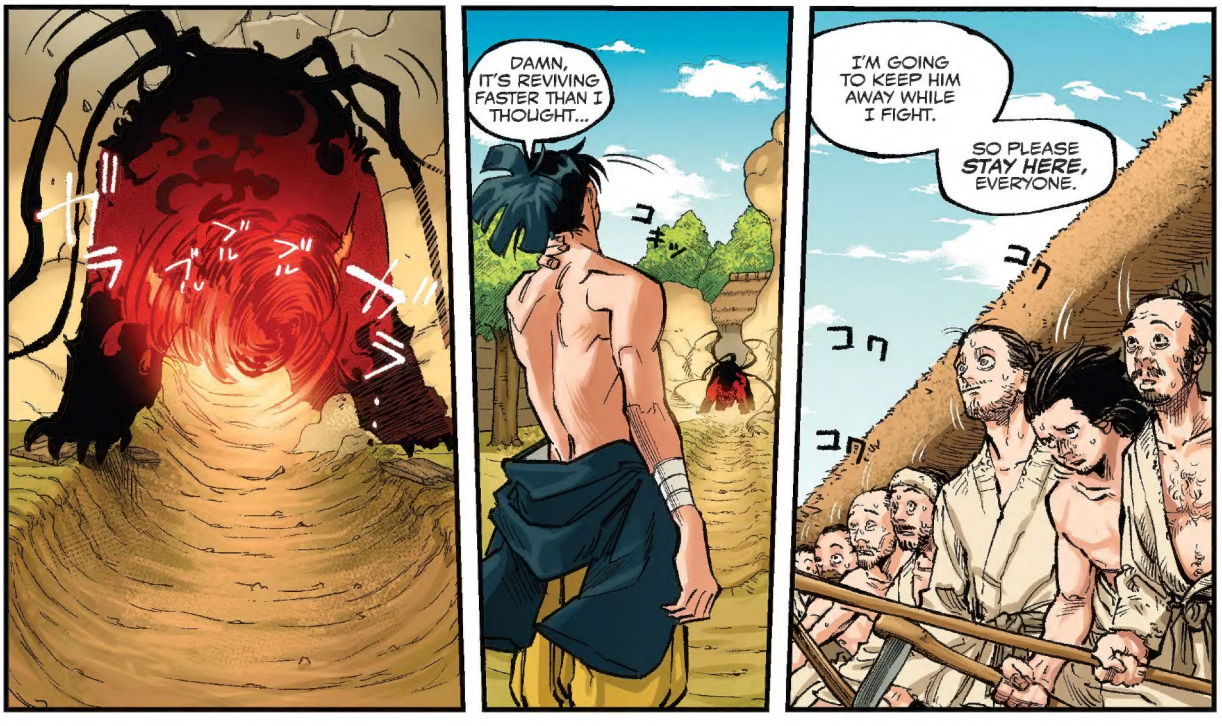


ONCE UPON A TIME,
THERE LIVED A VERY STRONG
BOY ON **MOUNT ASHIGARA.**



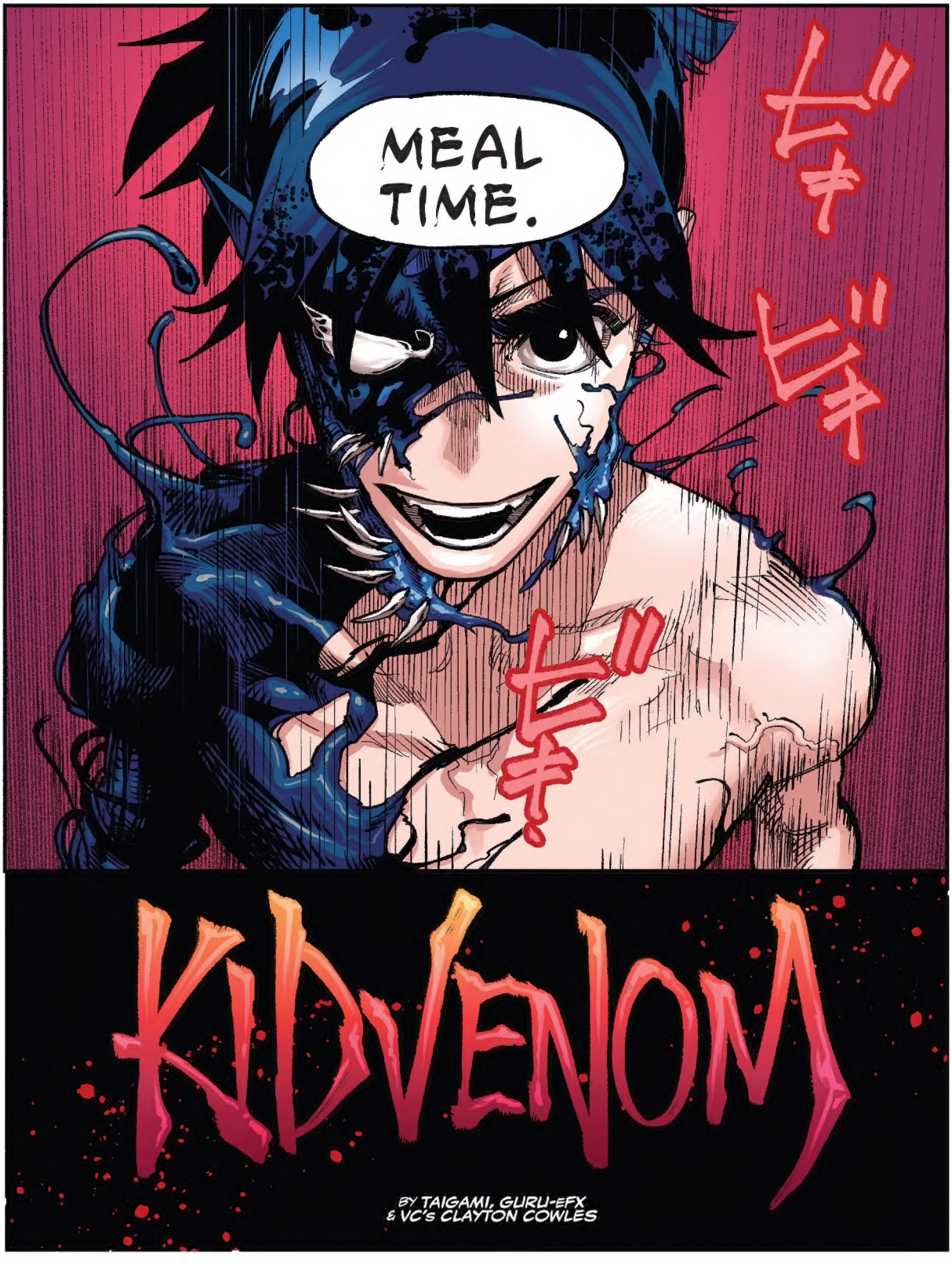


LATER, THE BOY WOULD BECOME A LEGENDARY SAMURAI, AND HIS STORY WOULD BE TOLD FOR **DECADES.**

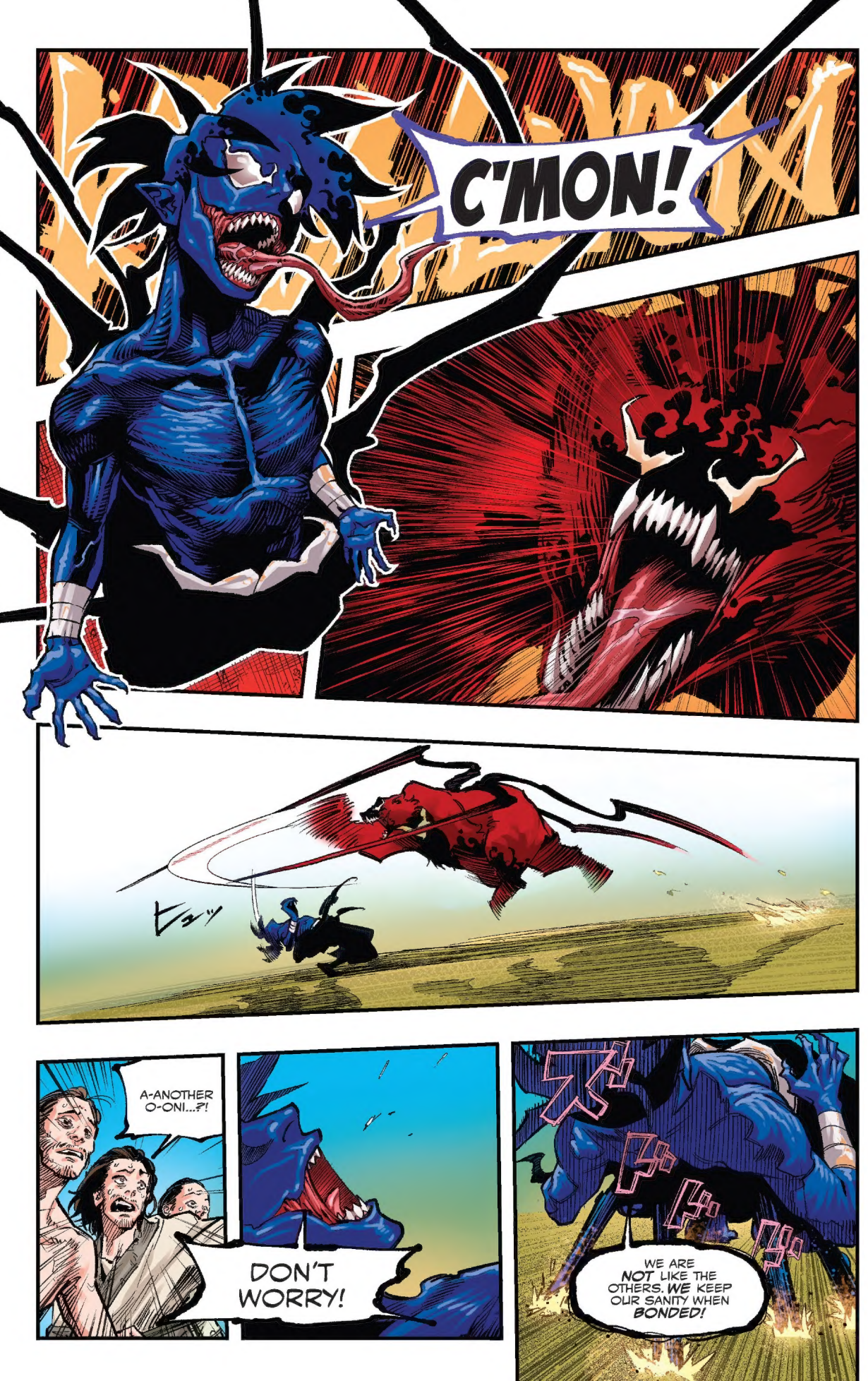


THE NAME...

...WAS **KINTARO.**


MEAL TIME.
ビキ
ビキ
ビキ
KIDVENOM
BY TAIGAMI, GURU-EFX & VC's CLAYTON COWLES

WAKE UP, CLINTER.


C'MON!
A-ANOTHER O-ONI...?!
DON'T WORRY!
WE ARE NOT LIKE THE OTHERS. WE KEEP OUR SANITY WHEN BONDED!

THERE SHOULDN'T BE MUCH COLLATERAL DAMAGE IF I TAKE THE FIGHT TO THE SKY!
I AM NOT GOING TO GET ANYONE HURT UP HERE.
WE ARE GOING TO DEVOUR HIM IN THE SKY, CLINTER!
GOT IT.
CHANGE TO FALC--
?
WE'RE STILL SAMURAI!

SYMBIOTE OFFSPRING?!
OH MAN!
ALL OF THEM AT ONCE?!
IT'S TRYING TO MAKE THE VILLAGERS HOSTS TO MAKE MORE ONIS.
IT'S AFRAID OF US.
CLINTER!
I'M ON IT.

EEK!
CHANGE TO...
...FALCON.
WE'LL RIP THAT THING OFF YOU SOON ENOUGH, BEAR.
NO MATTER HOW MANY SYMBIOTE OFFSPRING YOU MAKE, THAT MEANS NOTHING TO US, YOU LITTLE PUNK.

THE PARASITIC LIFE-FORMS CALLED SYMBIOTES FEED OFF THEIR HOST'S ADRENALINE.
THEIR BOND STRENGTHENS THE HOST'S ABILITIES, AND BY LEARNING AND EVOLVING AS THEY GROW.
BUT...
...CLINTER, THE SYMBIOTE ATTACHED TO KINTARO, DOES NOT FEED ON ADRENALINE.
INSTEAD, IT NEEDS TO EAT OTHER SYMBIOTES TO SURVIVE.
WHEN IT DOES, IT ALSO ABSORBS THE MEMORIES OF THE OTHER SYMBIOTES AND THEIR HOSTS...
...AND EVOLVES.
SINCE KINTARO IS BONDED TO CLINTER...
ズズズ...
CHANGE TO...

...FALCON FORM!

...ALL THE POWERS FROM THE ONI HE'S CONSUMED HAVE BECOME HIS. LIKE THE FALCON.

WHY IS HE UP IN THE AIR?!

ARGH!

CLINTER!

EAT IT!

EP-3

KILL VENOM

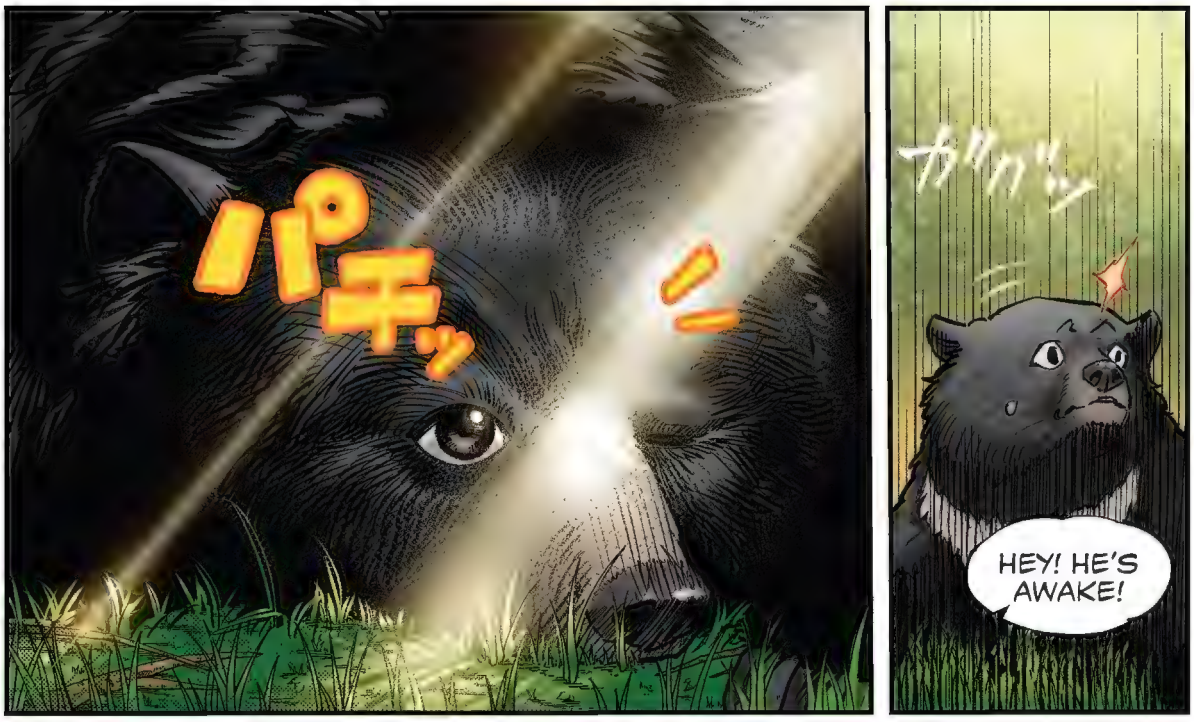
ズドドドドーン
ゴキュッ
ゴキュッ
ゴキュッ
ギャアアア

KOFF!!

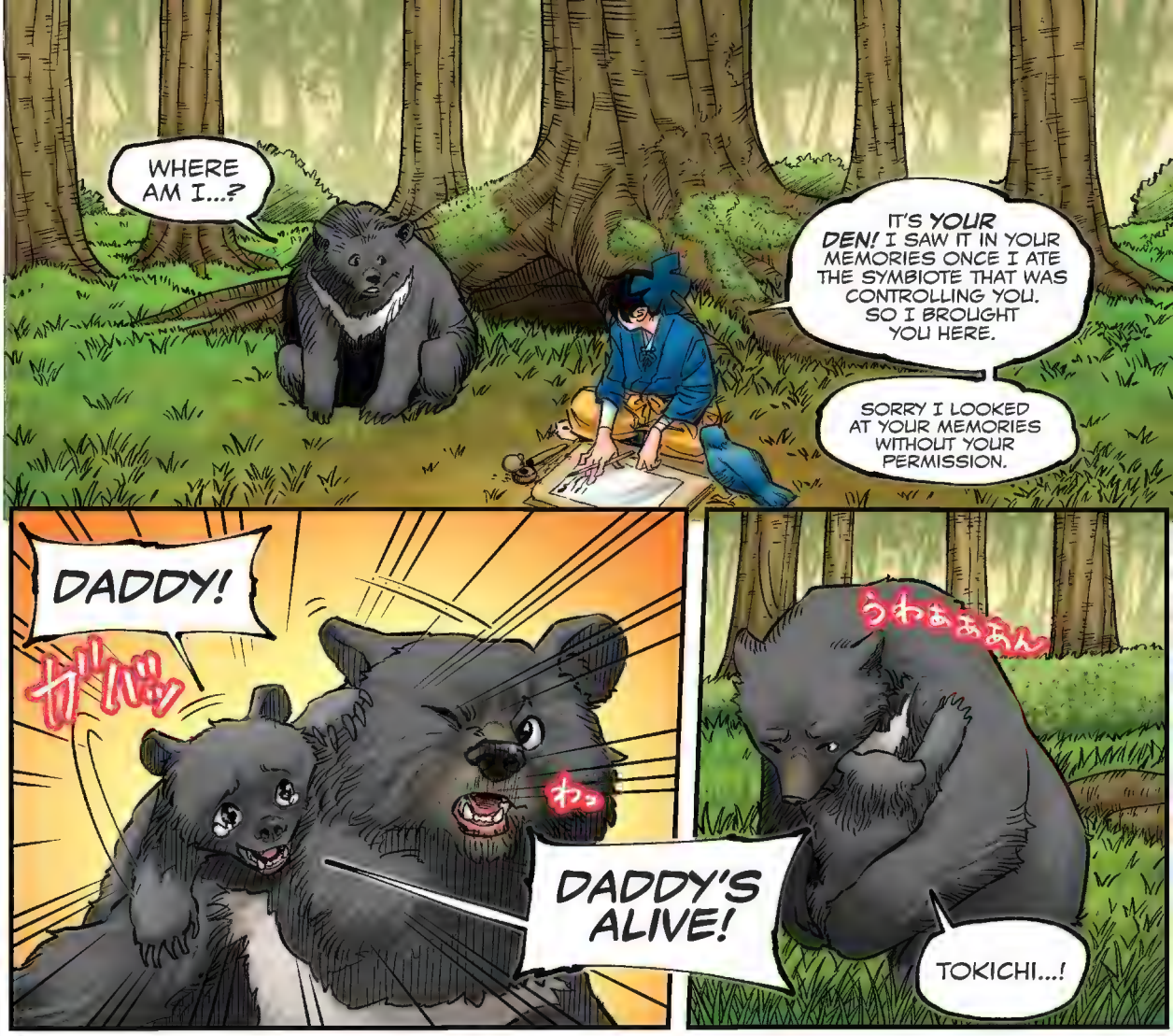
ゴキュ…
JUST A BIT MORE…
ゴキュッ

HAVE PATIENCE…
WE'LL GET YOU BACK, BEAR!
ズーン…

I...
...ADMIRE STRONG BEASTS, LIKE YOU.
I'M SURE THERE IS NO ANIMAL THAT'S DARED TO RIVAL YOU...
...BECAUSE YOU ARE SO STRONG.
AND...
...TO LIVE FREELY, LIKE YOU DO...
...YOU NEED POWER.
SPEAKING OF...
...THE DEEP TOLD ME...
...THAT YOU'RE THE ONE IN CONTROL HERE.
KING OF THESE HILLS.
BEAR...
ズズ...
...GIVE THAT POWER TO THE TRUE KING... ME.



EP.4


WHERE AM I...?
IT'S YOUR DEN! I SAW IT IN YOUR MEMORIES ONCE I ATE THE SYMBIOTE THAT WAS CONTROLLING YOU. SO I BROUGHT YOU HERE.
SORRY I LOOKED AT YOUR MEMORIES WITHOUT YOUR PERMISSION.

DADDY!
ガバッ
わっ
DADDY'S ALIVE!

うわぁぁぁん
TOKICHI...!

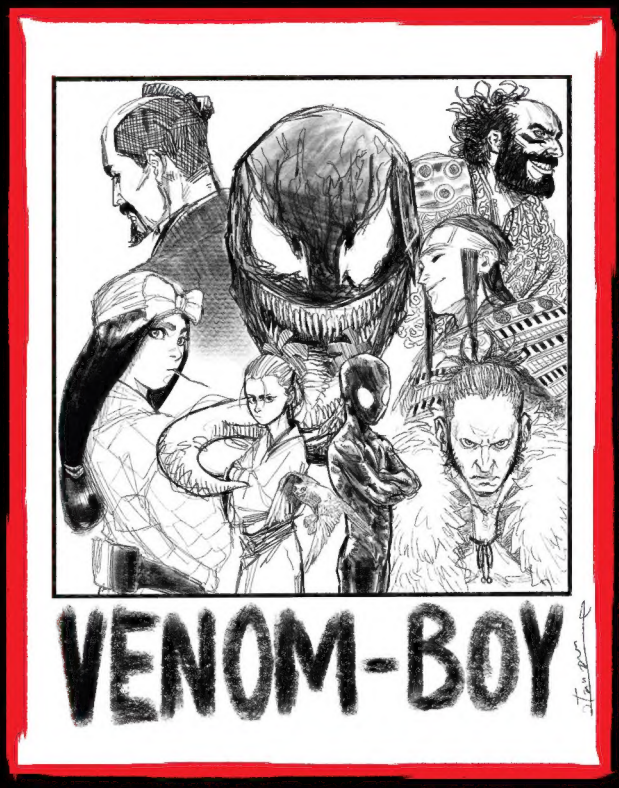
I ATE THE ENTIRE ONI THAT WAS POSSESSING YOU. YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY NOW.

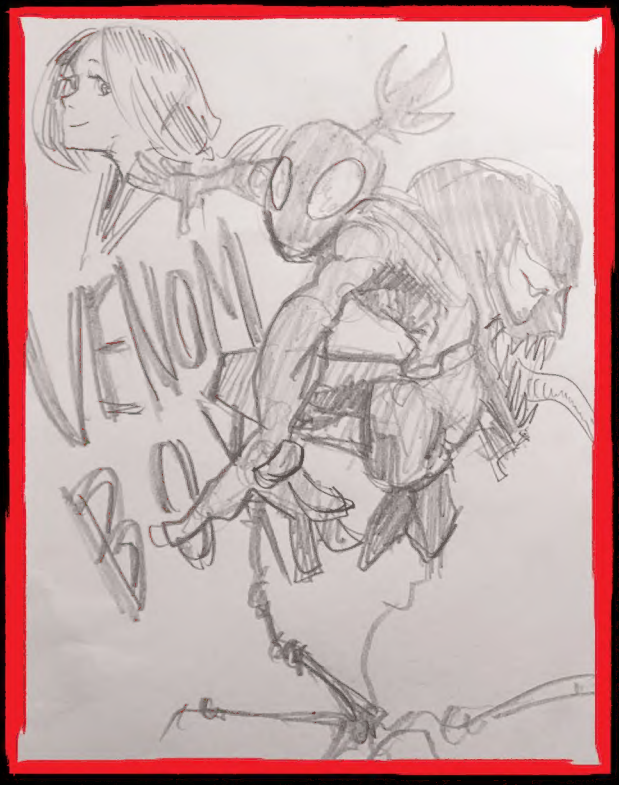
TH-THANK YOU...
BUT...
...WHY CAN I TALK...?
OH!
THAT COMES FROM THE ONI.
SINCE I ATE YOUR ONI, WE CAN TALK TO EACH OTHER NOW.
ANYWAY...

...I'M GLAD YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!
THANK YOU SO MUCH.
キュッ
THAT'LL DO IT.
OKAY, TENSUKE...
...GET THIS LETTER TO RAIKO-SAN, FULL SPEED!
ROGER!

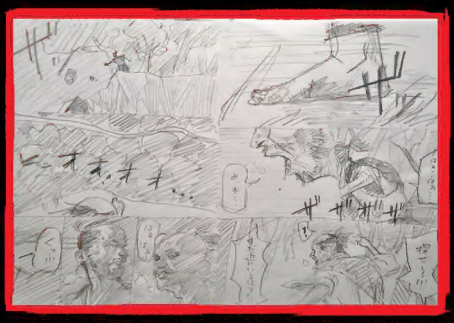
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO AFTER THIS, KIN?
I HAVE TO GO BACK TO THAT VILLAGE.
I WANT TO HELP THEM REPAIR THE DAMAGE THAT WAS DONE.
I SEE...
AFTER THAT, I'LL HEAD BACK.
OKAY THEN, I'M GOING!
THANKS!
ALL RIGHT.
ONE MORE TIME!
KYOTO. THE HOUSE OF MINAMOTO YORIMITSU.
THE SON OF SHUTEN DOJI IS VERY CLOSE...
HM...
I MUST...
CLINTER, YOU AWAKE?
...
YOU ARE GOING TO HELP ME, RIGHT?
...
C'MON!
...PREPARE IMMEDIATELY.
TO BE CONTINUED...IN KID VENOM #1!

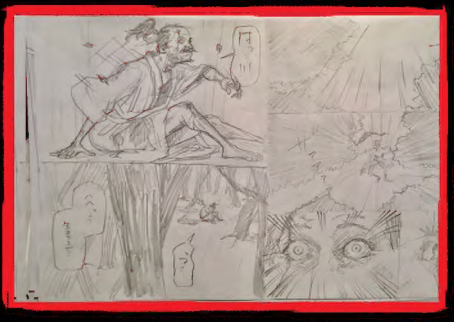
SKETCHES

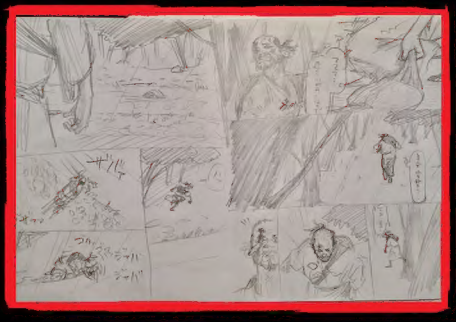


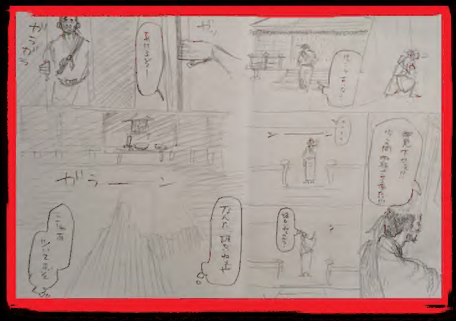


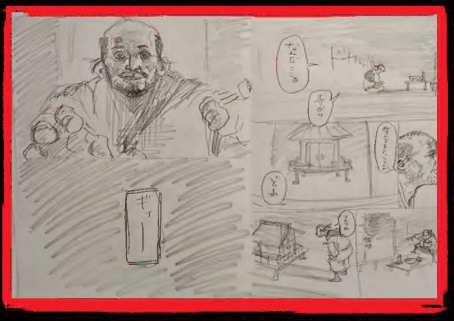
LAYOUTS (PGS 1-20)

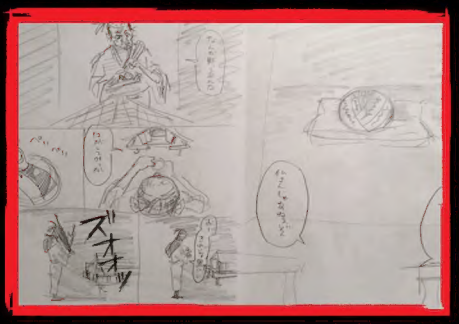


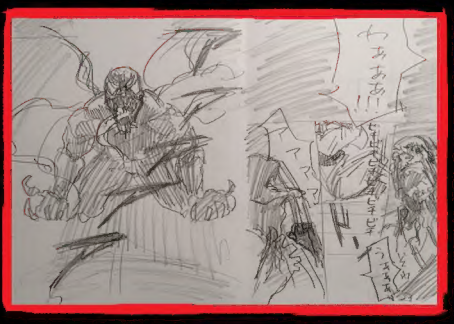




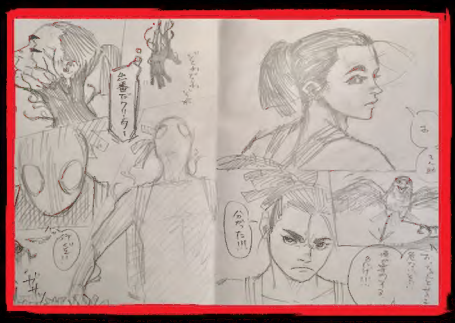


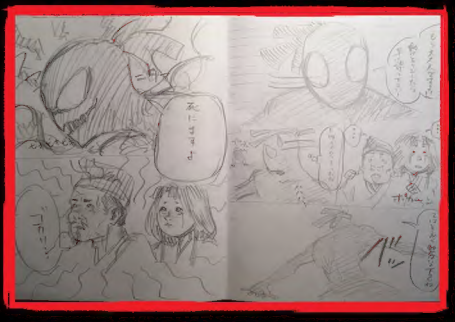


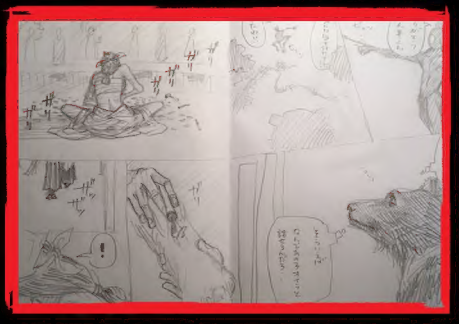


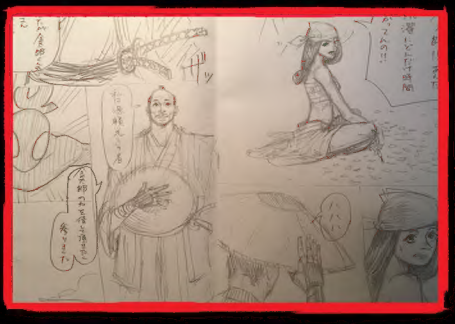


LAYOUTS (PGS 21-40)









INKS